

July 2019 News Notes

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Alumni Change Lives

Billy Eymold is a graduate student in SES, advised by Joachim Moortgat. Here, he shares how the Altair fund helped him further his studies.

My labmates and I recently traveled to the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG) Annual Convention and Exhibition in San Antonio. I presented research on noble gas analyses to a wide consortium of scientists and industry personnel, including my talk titled, Numerical and Empirical Evaluation of Noble Gas Diffusivity to Reconstruct Paleo Fluid Flow in the Appalachian Basin.

Throughout the three days, we were approached by a number of people interested in following up the work we did and potentially collaborating in the future. I was able to meet with fellow alumni from OSU and even high school, as well as reconnect with former OSU classmates to discuss our future plans regarding our research projects. The benefits of being able to participate in scientific conferences such as these and to bounce ideas off of diverse thinkers are innumerable and provide graduate students like myself with great opportunities to further our careers and open new doors going forward.



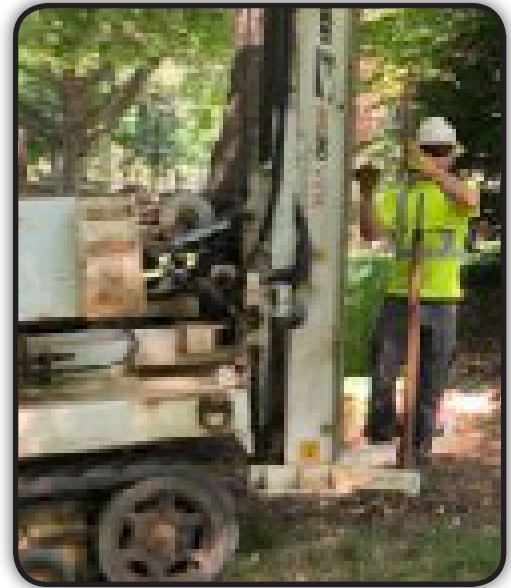
I know I speak for all current and future students of SES that we are grateful for the support of funds such as Altair Resources Travel Fund, underwritten by Jory A. Pacht (Ph.D., 1980) in order to keep our research endeavors going and to help us reach a larger audience.

If you are interested in giving to funds that support our student research such as the Friends of Orton Hall, please visit our [giving page](#).

Progress on Mirror Lake Educational Well Field

We are excited to announce the completion of a new water monitoring well field for the Mirror Lake Water Science Learning Lab! Earlier this month, over a dozen students participated in describing soil samples and completing well logs, with guidance from professional geologists from Eagon & Associates and ODNR (special thanks to alumni Nelson Novak and Mike Gibson of Eagon & Associates and J.D. Stucker, Jim Raab, Craig Nelson, and Krista Hardin of ODNR).

Countless students will use the field of 10 new wells to make water table maps and practice their surveying skills in classes this coming year.



Driller Dan Caproni operates the geoprobe.



Students describe core as Craig Nelson of ODNR advises.

Thank you to our generous alumni for reaching out to express interest and support in helping us acquire geoprobe services at the Mirror Lake Water Science Learning Lab. We have received \$300 in donations to date. Mike and Cindy Morgan have generously offered to match donations up to \$5K to meet the costs of the new wells (\$9K).

To support our drilling costs and the educational experiences the new well field provides, please consider giving to the [Mirror Lake Lab Fund](#).

Stigapalooza!

Announcing: A Stig Bergstrom Symposium!

Come celebrate the scientific and storytelling career of Emeritus Prof. Stig Bergstrom.

The Stigapalooza event will take place in Orton Hall on **Saturday August 10, 2019**. The day will begin at 8:30am with coffee and donuts.

Scientific sessions begin at 10:30.



RSVP to Matt Saltzman or email him at saltzman.11@osu.edu for more details.



John Bell enjoying the NAGT internship



SES graduate Jonathan Bell is currently participating in the National Association of Geoscience Teachers USGS Cooperative Summer Field Training Program. He mentions that he's having a great time at the Washinton Water Science Center, and learning a lot.

So far, Jonathan has mainly been working on the PROSPER project under [Kristin Jaeger](#). PROSPER stands for "Probability of Streamflow Permanence", and is an empirical model developed to predict if and where streams in the Pacific Northwest will cease to flow in any given year. More information about it can be found [here](#).

Jonathan states that he and his team are currently using GIS and historical datasets to develop methods to improve streamflow permanence predictions in areas where previous predictions poorly represented actual conditions. He's also been able to go out into the field regularly with other scientists and technicians to help with discharge and water quality monitoring. The picture on the left shows Jonathan measuring discharge at the Chehalis River near Adna, USGS gage #12021800 on July 23rd, 2019.

KRISTIN HANSON, P.Geo

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WHERE HAS YOUR DEGREE TAKEN YOU?

Kristin earned a B.Sc. in Environmental Geology from Ohio University, and a M.Sc. in Hydrogeology from the Ohio State University. Currently, Kristin is the leader of SNC-Lavalin's Engineering, Design and Project Management business in Central Canada. She manages over 500 engineers and scientists designing and building some of Canada's largest infrastructure projects and serving as key advisor to a wide range of clients in both the private and public sector.

Kristin has technical training and experience as a hydrogeologist, specializing in managing contaminated sites. She served as senior hydrogeologist and technical advisor on a multi-billion dollar light rail transit project in Toronto, the Eglinton Crosstown; one of the largest P3 projects in Canada.

HOW DID YOUR EXPERIENCE AS AN SES STUDENT AT OSU PREPARE YOU FOR YOUR CAREER?

My experience at OSU taught me to really embrace diversity, not just tolerate it. We were a relatively small department of students and professors of different ages, backgrounds and experiences, studying different aspects of geology, and working together as a team to support each other. I really learned how different perspectives and experiences make a team stronger. I gained confidence in myself through my experiences as a Teaching Assistant. The confidence the professors showed in me inspired me to reach higher. I took that confidence with me to my first job, and never looked back.

MOST MEMORABLE EXPERIENCE AS A STUDENT?

So many! Graduate student softball tournaments, cheering on my fellow students at the Columbus marathon, Dr. Bair playing kooky Talking Heads music to kick off his Hydrogeology course, Dr. Schwartz quizzing us on the Hydrogeologists of the Big Ten in thesis dissertations, and studying case studies from "A Civil Action" a major motion picture about Hydrogeology!

Treat school like work. Your job is to focus on learning everything you can from your professors, fellow students, and everyone around you.